

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In an Office Action mailed April 22, 2004, the Examiner allowed claims 30 and 44 through 49, rejected claims 15-29, 31 and 34, and objected to claims 32, 33 and 35-43. The Examiner indicated that the objected-to claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for the finding of allowability with respect to claims 30, 32, 33 and 35-49. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's findings of obviousness with respect to rejected claims 15-29, 31 and 34.

Copy of PTO 1449:

The Examiner did not return an initialed copy of the PTO 1449 which the Applicants filed with an IDS on April 1, 2004. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the PTO 1449 filed April 1, 2004 for Applicant's files.

Amended Claims:

Applicants herewith amend Claims 32, 33, 35, 36 and 38 for the sole purpose of placing these claims in independent form. Applicants respectfully believe that the claims are allowable as amended. Applicants also respectfully believe that dependent claims 37 and 39-43 are also allowable.

Cancelled Claims:

In order to place this case to issue, Applicants herewith cancel rejected claims 15-29, 31, 34, without acquiescence in or agreement with the Examiner's stated reasons for rejecting the claims, and without prejudicing or waiving their right to assert the subject matter of those claims in a continuation or continuation-in-part application.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner place claims 30, 32, 33 and 35-49 in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Reitan', enclosed within a large, horizontal oval shape.

Peter Reitan
Registration No. 48,603

Dated: 5/20/04

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